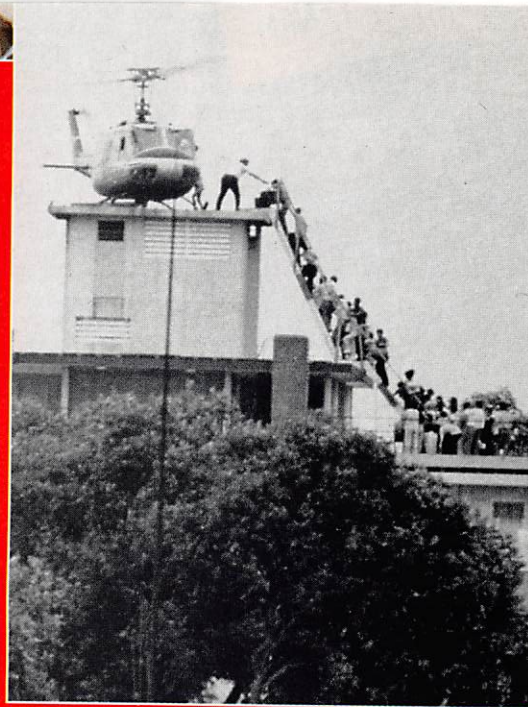


THE END IN SIGHT —

For those Americans still left in Vietnam in 1975 — and for thousands of desperate Vietnamese scrambling to get out — the U.S. Embassy in Saigon was the staging area for Operation Frequent Wind, the final evacuation effort. High-priority evacuees could count on a "Huey" lift to the safety of waiting U.S. aircraft carriers. But for others, a ticket to freedom meant scaling the embassy wall, buying bogus U.S. dependent papers on the black market or risking death by squeezing into the wheel wells of a departing jetliner. Learn the facts about America's last days in Vietnam in *The Fall of the South*.



By **ROGER PETTERSON**
Associated Press Writer

Thousands of Vietnam War veterans marched and Scouts placed flags at a national cemetery Saturday at the opening of the Memorial

Day weekend, while thousands of others tested new 65 mph speed limits on their way to beaches, parades and parties.

The weekend was overshadowed by the deaths of 37 sailors whose



Visitors to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial look at a statue placed near the mall in Washington. Note the flag flying at half-staff in honor of the servicemen killed on the USS Stark.

Veterans' Memorial, cemetery reality soon at Camp Williams

By PATRICK CHRISTIAN
Herald Staff Writer

CAMP W. G. WILLIAMS — It couldn't be too long before rows of white crosses symbolizing American military service are seen at Camp G. G. Williams located in Utah and Salt Lake Counties.

A group of Utah veterans organizations have been working since the 1960's to establish a cemetery and memorial for veterans.

At first the veterans had little success realizing their goals, said Carla Zeeman, a volunteer public relations specialist working with the veterans.

But she says now about 20 veterans organizations have banded together in a united front.

In 1986 they were able to influence Utah State Legislators to pass House Bill 148 authorizing the establishment and operation of the Veterans Memorial Park at Camp Williams.

The project still in the planning stage is expected to include a 21.5-acre cemetery and a 1.5-acre freedom and American heritage memorial.

project, including the 21.5 acre cemetery," she said.

"The rest of the area will be developed as a Freedom Memorial and Heritage area

"This facility will serve a dual role as a cemetery for veterans and their spouses and as a Freedom Memorial and Heritage Area."

—Carla Zeeman

"This facility will serve a dual role as a cemetery for veterans and their spouses and as a Freedom Memorial and Heritage Area," Zeeman said.

She said the cost of this project will be about \$814,000, and will come from State and Federal matching funds and individual and corporate donations.

"Twenty-three acres have been set aside for this

to depict and outline the importance of our freedoms, our heritage, and our beliefs."

Zeeman said the goal of the veterans is to have burial fees make the park financially self-sustaining. She said 300 veterans and spouses opting for burial at Camp Williams each year would allow the park to be self-sustaining.

Furthermore, it's also possible the park could return \$132,300 to the state if 900

veterans and 450 spouses each year opted for burial there, she said.

"It's really not out of the question since we estimate that there are 160,000 veterans living in Utah and 51,000 of these are expected to die within the next 20 years."

Zeeman said a Dan Jones & Associates poll indicated that 40 percent of Utah veterans would choose to be buried at Camp Williams.

Donations toward this project may be made to any of the veterans organizations throughout the state.

Donations can also be made by sending a check or money order payable to the UMVAC Memorial Park Fund, c/o Utah Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, 178 Social Hall Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah 84111.

Zeeman said while there are some veterans memorials in various communities, this would be a state-wide memorial.

Pfc. Thomas Coleman Serving in Vietnam

13 Aug 1970

Pfc. Thomas R. Coleman, son of Lowell Coleman of Midway, left Oakland, California on August 7, 1970 for a one year tour of duty in South Vietnam. He took his basic training at Fort Lewis, Washington. He was trained as a reconnaissance intelligence specialist at Fort Knox, Kentucky. He is a machine gunner on a small truck which will reconnoiter in advance of the main troops.

His wife, Mary Sweeney Coleman resides in Kamas, Utah.